

Message Text

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ACTION A-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 OPR-02 SY-04 SS-15 NSC-05 NSCE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5719

UNCLAS TOKYO 14281

DEPT FOR A

WHITE HOUSE FOR RUSTAND/HENKEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (FORD, GERALD R.)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT - PRESS CLUB LUNCHEON

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER FROM MR. SEIKI WATANABE,
PRESIDENT OF JAPAN NATIONAL PRESS CLUB, TO PRESIDENT
FORD FORMALIZING REQUEST NOTED REFTEL THAT PRESIDENT
APPEAR BEFORE LUNCHEON MEETING OF CLUB.

BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: IT WAS WITH GREAT
PLEASURE THAT WE LEARNED OF YOUR ANTICIPATED VISIT TO
JAPAN FROM NOVEMBER 18 THROUGH 22 AT THE INVITATION OF
THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN. AS THE FIRST VISIT TO JAPAN
BY A PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, IT WILL REPRESENT
A LANDMARK IN THE HISTORY OF AMICABLE RELATIONS BETWEEN
JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES, AND, AS SUCH, IT IS A SOURCE
OF GREAT SATISFACTION TO THE ENTIRE JAPANESE POPULATION.
IN ORDER TO EXPRESS TO YOU THE PLEASURE OF THE JAPANESE
PEOPLE AT YOUR VISIT AND AT THE SAME TIME TO PROVIDE
THE MEMBERS OF THE PRESS, WHO ARE THE PEOPLE'S REPRESENTATIVES,
WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK WITH THE
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, WE OF THE JAPAN NATIONAL
PRESS CLUB WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST THE HONOR OF YOUR
PRESENCE AS OUR ESTEEMED GUEST AT A LUNCHEON TO BE SPONSORED
BY OUR CLUB. WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL SEE FIT TO

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ACCEPT OUR INVITATION.

THE JAPAN NATIONAL PRESS CLUB IS AN ORGANIZATION WHICH WE FEEL TRULY REPRESENTS THE JAPANESE PRESS, BEING COM-
PRISED OF WELL-KNOWN JOURNALISTS FROM NEWSPAPERS, NEWS AGENCIES, AND BROADCASTING COMPANIES THROUGHOUT THE NATION.

ON MANY OCCASIONS, OUR CLUB HAS INVITED IMPORTANT FOREIGN DIGNITARIES TO BE OUR HONORED GUESTS AT CLUB EVENTS WHEN THEY VISIT OUR LAND, THIS HAVING BEEN DONE BOTH FOR THE PURPOSE OF NEWS GATHERING AND TO FULFILL THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF INTERNATIONAL PROTOCOL. WE ASSURE YOU THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE JAPANESE PRESS EXTEND THIS INVITATION UNANIMOUSLY, AND WE SINCERELY HOPE THAT YOU WILL HONOR US WITH YOUR KIND ACCEPTANCE.

IN CONCLUSION, ALLOW US TO OFFER YOU OUR BEST WISHES FOR YOUR HEALTH AND HAPPINESS AND OUR SINCERE HOPE FOR A SAFE AND SUCCESSFUL VISIT TO JAPAN. END TEXT.
HODGSON

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TAGS: OVIP, (FORD, GERALD R)
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